

BFCC
Minutes
January 27, 2025
Approved 1/3/2025

Meeting called to order at 3:02pm

Members present: Gary Bartlett, Natashia Lindsey, Mary Radeke, Melissa Schiel, Nathan White
Minutes from 1/13/2025 approved. Minor clerical changes made. Nathan moved to approved, Natashia 2nd, Gary abstained.

Chair report:

- Discussion of charges – Peter provided a prioritized list. Mary reported that list follows the original list from EC.
- Brief recap of motions presented at the Senate on 1/15.
- Brief recap of charges that need to be presented at Senate.
- Mary reminded all of the new NTT senator positions charge. NTT feedback poll will close Friday 1/31. Mary will review results and will prep the charge for a vote over the weekend. So far feedback aligns with the BFCC's motion language. BOT must approve changes to the Code and Bylaws as per

EC report:

- Budget and Planning Committee discussion is on hold for now (Charge **BFCC 24-25.10**).

BFCC 24-25.03

- **(Fall)** Add language to either Code and/or Bylaws recommending that chairs not serve as senators if other department faculty are willing and able to serve.

BFCC discussed options for revisions of the language and finalized the language subject to EC's review.

Department chairs should not serve as senators if other TT/T faculty members in that department are willing to serve. In the event a chair is elected as department senator, a short explanation must be provided to the EC of the reason(s) for this assignment.

Gary moved to approve the amendment, Nathan 2nd, all approved.

Mary will send to the EC for approval.

BFCC 24-25.02

- **(Fall)** Add a section to either Code and/or Bylaws that itemizes senator responsibilities (e.g. attendance, disseminating accurate reports and information

back to departments) and possible senate actions if these responsibilities are grossly neglected.

- o What basic expectations should Senators be held to?
- o Possible reminder that Senate reports are technically speech on behalf of the university (and not individual, personal speech).

BFCC discussed the addition of a statement that “Senate reports are speech on behalf of the university...”. The BFCC agreed that this statement should not be included. Mary will notify EC of our discussion.

Clerical changes were made to the language.

E. 2. If a senator resigns permanently from the Senate, or is removed by a majority vote of their department, the position shall become vacant and a replacement shall promptly be nominated and elected. Replacements, elected to a position vacated by a regularly elected senator, shall serve for the unexpired term of the senator. Such a replacement for a tenured or tenure-track senator, who serves an unexpired term, is not disqualified from thereafter serving three full consecutive terms, unless the unexpired term is two years or more in length (see Code IV.B.2.a regarding partial terms).

Gary moved to accept the changes, Nathan 2nd, all were in favor.

F. Duties

1. The primary role of senators is to represent their department or unit which includes the following:
 - a. Review Senate agenda before Senate meetings
 - b. Attend Senate meetings
 - c. Relay department faculty’s (or constituents’) issues/questions/concerns to Faculty Senate
 - d. Vote on motions during Senate meetings
 - e. Provide reports (orally or written) from the Senate meetings to department or constituents within two weeks after Senate meetings.
 - f. Participate in Senate forums, special meetings, and Senate-related surveys.
2. Senators who fail to fulfill these duties may be subject to removal as per Bylaws I.E.2.

Nathan moved to accept the changes to the senator duties, Natasha 2nd, all were in favor.

BFCC 24-25.05

- **(Winter)** Modify Faculty Code, Appendix B to allow self-nominations for the Distinguished Faculty Award.

Context: We're getting less nominations over time. Janet knows specific details of how many.

BFCC 24-25.06

- (Winter) Investigate possible ways to reduce the time requirements of the Distinguished Faculty Award application process without compromising the integrity of the awards. Make recommendations as appropriate.

Also update out-of-date language in Distinguished Faculty Submission Process (review Sandy's suggestions)

BFCC agreed that we need more information before altering the nomination and application process for the Distinguished Faculty Awards. For example, while we have numbers of applicants from the past 4 years, having a longer history of applicant rates would be beneficial.

BFCC discussed the idea of adding to Faculty 180. The committee thought that this would be problematic, and not intuitive.

It may be beneficial to ask prior year applicants to find out if there were issues.

BFCC agreed to add the option for candidates to self-nominate.

Meeting adjourned at 4:26 pm.